TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE





SB 516 - HB 586

February 18, 2019

SUMMARY OF BILL: Prohibits an eligible postsecondary institution from denying a student residential housing solely because of the student's award of a Tennessee STEP UP Scholarship.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

Assumptions:

- The Tennessee STEP UP Scholarship is a program designed to assist students with intellectual disabilities who have completed high school and enrolled in a two-year individualized program at an eligible postsecondary institution.
- The STEP UP Scholarship is currently offered at the University of Tennessee and the University of Memphis.
- Currently the STEP UP Scholarship is a non-residential program.
- According to the U.S. Department of Education website, if your postsecondary school provides housing to nondisabled students, it must provide comparable, convenient, and accessible housing to students with disabilities at the same cost.
- Nothing in this legislation requires universities to make any additional accommodations than what is already required under current federal and state law, including the Fair Housing Act § 42 U.S.C Chapter 45.
- Specifying that recipients of the STEP UP Scholarship cannot be denied housing *solely* because the student has been awarded this scholarship will not significantly impact the universities.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Krista Lee Carsner, Executive Director

Kista Lee Caroner

/lam